

# DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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William D. Dearnaley, News Director  
Robert E. Vetter, Deputy News Director

Telephone: (212) 867-8400

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## WEICKER KEYNOTES

### UNDER ONE ROOF

DPS 87035

NEW YORK (DPS, Feb. 19) -- Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., R.-Conn. will be the keynote speaker at a conference of 16 Episcopal Networks who will come together "UNDER ONE ROOF" in St. Louis, June 4-7, to share social, specialized and justice ministries. Weicker, who is an Episcopalian, will speak on "Politics, Religion and the Constitution" and will set out his vision of the role for Christian people in a ministry of public service.

The Senator's address will be examined from sociological and theological perspectives the following morning by a panel consisting of the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, Dr. Arie Brouwer; Dr. Mattie Hopkins, Chicago educator; Emma Lou Benignus, Pennsylvanian-based theologian; and the Very Rev. Durstan McDonald, Dean of the Seminary of the South west.

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Weicker is the senior United States Senator from Connecticut, a position in which he has served since 1971. He is a member of the Appropriations Committee, where he is the ranking Republican member of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, which has direct responsibility for establishing funding limits for these and other important departments. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, he also serves on the Subcommittee on Commerce, Defense, Interior and Transportation. Weicker is the ranking minority member of the Senate Committee on Small Business. He also serves on the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, where he is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on the Handicapped, which addresses the needs of the nation's 36 million disabled persons. Finally, he sits on the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The Conference, "UNDER ONE ROOF", "will explore comprehensive, integrated, holistic ministry" by Episcopalians. Five hundred participants from the 16 co-sponsoring networks will participate in three plenary sessions, various network meetings, 38 workshops, and field trips to areas of ministry in the St. Louis area. A plenary session on Saturday morning will discuss the vision for the Church which actively works for holistic ministry. This session will include Pamela Chinnis, Vice President of the House of Deputies; Barry Menuez, Senior Executive for Mission Program; and the Hon. Byron Rushing, Massachusetts State Representative and past President of the Urban Caucus. Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning will preach and celebrate at the closing Eucharist on Sunday, June 7.

For information and Conference registration materials contact Nancy Deppen, Public Policy Network, Episcopal Church Center, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

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**EPISCOPAL/ROMAN CENTER ON**

**AIDS CRISIS SET TO OPEN**

DPS 87036

INDIANAPOLIS (DPS, Feb. 19) -- Episcopalians and Roman Catholics here have joined together to establish the Damien Center as a hub for education and counselling of those affected by the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) crisis.

Expected to begin operation in mid-March, the Center is sponsored by Christ Church Cathedral and the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and St. Peter and St. Paul's Cathedral and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis. It takes its name from the Rev. Joseph Damien DeVeuster, a 19th Century missionary who has been proposed for canonization for his work with lepers in Hawaii.

The Rev. Canon Earl L. Conner, canon of Christ Church Cathedral, and the Rev. Msgr. Gerald A. Gettelfinger, rector of St. Peter and St. Paul's Cathedral, are the primary incorporators of the Center. "However," Gettelfinger explained at the news conference announcing the center, "We want to emphasize that this is a community project, not just an Episcopalian or a Catholic project."

Several organizations already active in work on the AIDS epidemic will be using the facilities of the new center. These groups cover a wide range of responses, from those involved in providing housing for AIDS patients; to those training and acting as buddies to patients; to those offering counselling to patients, their parents, other family members, friends and the community at large.

A library with current information on the disease will be an important component of the Center, with material that can be used by groups assisting persons in dealing with AIDS. The development of a speakers' bureau is planned to assist groups or organizations that would be open to learning more about AIDS, as well as to offer in-center seminars regarding the crisis.

"The key thing, is we are concerned about people," Gettelfinger said at the news conference. "We are not here to ask the question 'How did you get this way?' We are here to minister to the need."

The initial impetus for the Center came from a resolution of the 1985 Episcopal Church General Convention, which called for development, implementation and funding by dioceses, parishes and missions of

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programs of awareness, education and prevention concerning AIDS and of ministry to all persons affected by AIDS. Connor, who chaired the delegation from the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, returned from Convention and began working on the request.

After several attempts to find housing for an AIDS center were thwarted, Conner learned that the Roman Catholic Archdiocese was no longer using its old chancery building, originally built and used as a primary grade school and later home to the offices of the Archdiocese. He asked Gettelfinger, who holds title to the old chancery building through his office as Cathedral rector, to join the fight against the AIDS crisis. His response: The Center.

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PASCO FOUNDATION

SETTLES, DROPS SUITS

DPS 87037

OKLAHOMA CITY (DPS, Feb. 19) -- A settlement was reached in an Oklahoma District Court on Jan. 29 between the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma and a foundation headed by deposed priest John Pasco, after the diocese presented what was described by Judge Tony Graham as a "very strong case."

Graham said that the evidence presented by Graydon Dean Luthey, chancellor for the diocese, showed that by "scheme and artifice" the foundation headed by Pasco had been concealed from diocesan officials. Graham further said that the evidence presented showed that the scheme continued and information about the true nature of the foundation was "obscured or withheld" from the diocese. Pasco and his three attorneys did not present a defense after the diocese rested its case.

The suit filed by the diocese alleged that Pasco and the foundation fraudulently obtained title to church property and funds by channeling them into the control of St. Michael's Church Foundation.

The settlement, requires the independent foundation to pay the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma \$106,000 and to drop a related suit filed by the foundation against the Diocese of Oklahoma, as well as a libel and slander suit filed by Pasco against the Standing Committee of the Diocese and the Rt. Rev. Gerald N. McAllister, Bishop of Oklahoma.

Financial irregularities that came to light in 1984 during the diocesan comptroller's routine audit of a St. Michael's Parochial Report signed by Pasco, and the subsequent discovery of the independent foundation, led to Pasco's trial before an ecclesiastical court for violation of canon law and his eventual deposition as a priest.

In the civil trial, the Rev. Canon James Harris, C.P.A., retired comptroller of the diocese, testified that from 1979 through 1984 Pasco signed misleading parochial reports that hid the fact that property intended for St. Michael's Episcopal Church had been diverted to an independent foundation out of reach of the Episcopal Church. In



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court, Pasco admitted under oath signing annual parochial reports to the diocese showing that St. Michael's Episcopal Church owned property that was in fact owned by the independent foundation of which he is president.

Among funds diverted to the foundation was a \$50,000 grant by the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma to St. Michael's Episcopal Church to assist in the acquisition of land for a permanent church building. The grant application was signed by Pasco for St. Michael's Episcopal Church. The funds, however, were deposited to the account of St. Michael's Church Foundation, described in the court record as an "alter ego" for St. Michael's Episcopal Church, but with no legal connection with or responsibility to the Diocese of Oklahoma. In 1980, the Diocesan Council approved a loan of \$30,000 to St. Michael's Episcopal Church. This too, was channeled to the independent foundation.

Officials of the Diocese of Oklahoma were not the only ones surprised by the existence of St. Michael's Church Foundation. In 1978, a building valued at more than \$25,000 and a \$10,000 check were given to St. Michael's Episcopal Church by Malcolm Deisenroth, a Tulsa banker, geologist and longtime Episcopalian. These, too, were placed in the independent foundation, away from Episcopal Church control. Deisenroth testified under oath that he had intended them for the use of St. Michael's Episcopal Church, not an independent foundation, and had so listed them on his tax returns. Deisenroth's \$10,000 check, made out to St. Michael's Episcopal Church but deposited to the foundation's account, was presented in court as evidence.

"I could not believe my eyes," Deisenroth testified when asked about his discovery in 1984 that the check had been endorsed to an independent foundation rather than to the payee, St. Michael's Episcopal Church.

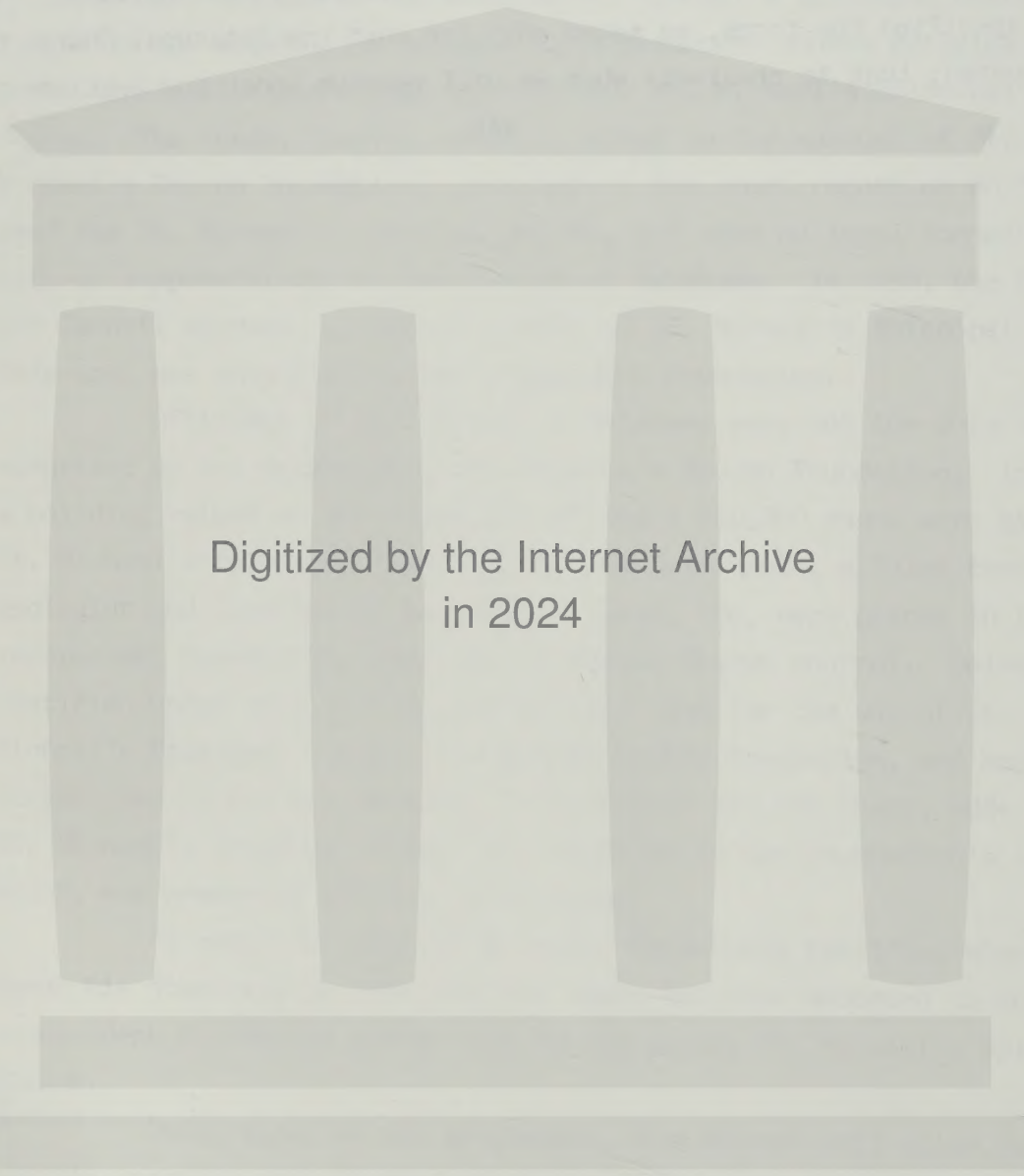
Under terms of the settlement, the diocese will allow Pasco and his group to stay in the building. Because the foundation apparently does not have funds available to pay the full amount of the settlement, the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma agreed to allow the funds to be paid in installments at a reasonable rate of interest with a mortgage on the building and property.

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"We are completely satisfied with the settlement," McAllister said. "We did not want the building itself. And we have recovered for the Episcopal Church all of the funds that were intended for St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Broken Arrow but diverted to the foundation. We are certainly not interested in taking anything that the foundation members themselves innocently invested in the building. When we specified the terms, we asked only for what the Episcopal Church had invested; that is precisely what we will receive under the settlement.

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COLLEGE VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM EXPANDS

DPS 87038

NEW YORK (DPS, Feb. 19) -- "It made me a risk-taker....I found I had strengths I never dreamed I had." Such was the assessment of one student who participated in a volunteer service program sponsored by the Association of Episcopal Colleges.

Learning Through Service 1987/88 offers young people opportunities ranging from summer service at the Kanuga Camp and Conference Center in North Carolina to a two-month or longer period at Holy Cross Mission and neighboring Mbalotahun leper colony in Liberia. Academic credit is possible, with five of the programs including formal study in accredited colleges, while others provide informal learning. Participants include those taking time between high school and college, college students and recent college graduates; some wish to test vocations, others just want to help someone. All pay their own way, though some scholarship aid is available, provided by the Episcopal Church Foundation, which has also given some operating support to the project. Most placements provide a small salary or stipend.

The program had its genesis in the summer of 1985, when a group of students from Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, who were interested in the arts came to New York and served in the camp program of Holy Trinity Church here. Last year, there were 25 student volunteers, and participating programs offered placements around the United States and in Great Britain, Jamaica, the Philippines and Liberia.

This year the program has expanded again, with an even wider choice of placements -- all Episcopal Church-affiliated -- and greater options for length and time of service. But before the materials on these had even been sent out, the office of the Association of Episcopal Schools, located at the Episcopal Church Center here, had received 100 inquiries. Materials are now being sent to all Episcopal colleges and chaplains. A letter introducing the materials and an order form has also been sent to all bishops.

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DPS 87038/2

Citing recent Carnegie Recommendations which included making volunteer service a required part of college education, Linda Chisholm, president of the Association of Episcopal Colleges, said, "We want to turn out not just richer and more successful people but responsible human beings...In school, we teach students to analyze and describe but not how to take action on it. This program enables them to identify themselves as givers."

Chisholm also spoke of her hopes for the continued growth of the volunteer program, so that "20 years from now, at General Convention, 20 percent of the delegates will have had this experience." She sees the program as "a potentially powerful contribution to Church leadership, education and, ultimately, the wider society" because of the wider experience it gives young people, the knowledge that the problems of the world are more than academic, they have human ramifications. She quoted an art history student who had served as volunteer teacher of reading and art at a school in a poverty-stricken area of Jamaica: "I learned that at the other end of a decision by the International Monetary Fund is a hungry child named 'Tracy.'"

Further information and materials may be obtained from the Association of Episcopal Colleges, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017; phone: (212) 986-0989.

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CHURCH COMPUTER

NETWORK READIED

DPS 87039

NEW YORK (DPS, Feb. 19) -- The office of Mission Information Services at the Episcopal Church Center is sponsoring EPINET, the Episcopal Church Electronic Network. The computer network is similar to that used by information services such as Compuserv and the Source, and is available by local telephone connection in most cities of the United States.

EPINET is as a means of rapid communication for individuals, parishes, dioceses, provinces and national working groups in the Episcopal Church. Its use requires a micro-computer, a modem and a telephone connection. An I.D. number and password must be given each time the user signs onto the network.

EPINET offers a wide range of information services. Electronic mail can be exchanged between any of the users and the network offers capabilities for sending and receiving telegrams and cablegrams with those not on the network. EPINET also offers a file transfer service for use with compatible systems.

In addition to E-mail, the system offers immediate access to the major news wires, Dow Jones, government releases and agricultural news. One can also check airline schedules and make reservations on EPINET using either the Official Airline Guide or the American Airlines "SABRE" system.

Specifically Episcopal Church services are also offered. There is a bulletin board with 25 categories for users to post messages and inquiries. The Episcopal Church Calendar of national and regional events and meetings is available (**Eds.: the current listings for March-December will be printed in next week's mailing**). And the network is being expanded to offer other items of interest to users.

EPINET has been tested over the past six months at the Church Center and with a few offices in Washington, D.C., California and Philadelphia. It is now ready to begin linking the computers of dioceses, parishes and working groups across the Church. Further information and subscription requirements can be obtained from the office of Mission Information Services, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017, phone : (212) 867-8400, ext. 440.





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NY COUNCIL HONORS

WAITE AND AQUINO

DPS 87040

NEW YORK (DPS, Feb. 19) -- Phillippine President Corazon C. Aquino and Anglican envoy Terry Waite were honored in absentia at the Feb. 5 dinner of the Society for the Family of Man of the New York City Council of Churches.

Both Aquino and Waite received the Society's Family of Man gold medallions, which recognize persons endowed "with the universal gift of excellence who use their God-given talents in the service of mankind."

The award to Aquino was presented by the Rev. La Verne Mercado, general secretary of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, at the Philippine presidential palace. The ceremony was broadcast over a live satellite closed-circuit television feed for the guests at the benefit dinner at New York's Pierre Hotel.

The award to Waite, who serves in London as assistant to the Archbishop of Canterbury for Anglican and Interchurch Affairs was made amid speculation about his safety and whereabouts. Earlier in the day, unconfirmed reports circulated that he had been shot while trying to escape from Shiite Moslem captors in Beirut. A conflicting report was later received that he had been seen alive and well in Beirut. There has been -- as of Feb. 19 -- no direct contact with Waite for 30 days.

Waite's efforts as a negotiator for hostages over the past several years have resulted in several releases from Iran, Libya and Lebanon. He was cited by dinner organizers as a "very credible candidate for the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize," for which he had been nominated by a group of United Kingdom MPs.

In accepting the award for Waite, the Rev. Charles A. Cesar-etti, Deputy for Anglican Relations for Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning, led the 500 dinner guests in prayer for the safety of Waite, of all hostages and for those who take hostages.

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**DON'T SEPERATE SPIRITUAL  
AND MATERIAL, SAYS LONGID**

DPS 87041

SAGADA, Philippines (DPS, Feb. 19) -- "People say the church must concern itself with purely spiritual matters," says Epsicopal Bishop Robert Longid. "My theology tells me that it is not an either-or-thing. The political, the material aspect of life is not separated from the spiritual," he said in a recent interview with Religious News Service.

That thought guides Longid through his work as head of the Philippine Episcopal Church's 35,000 member Northern-Luzon Diocese. It also gets him in trouble now and then with military and civil authorities in this region where guerrilla forces of the National Democratic Front (NDF) have been active.

Longid is one of seven children of Bishop Edward Longid, who headed the same diocese in the mid-1970's. The current bishop is a member of the Anglican Peace and Justice Network and known for his deep interest in ecumenical and rural ministries.

His fight to retain the character of the region and his concern for the indigenous population point up the kinds of lingering problems that the government of Corazon C. Aquino faces in many areas outside of Manila.

Longid has been tagged a leftist. He recalls that in the early 1980's his name appeared on an order of battle of the Philippine Constabulary, labeling him a "communist terrorist." But despite such labels and implicit threats, the native of this mountain town continued to speak his mind during the final years of the Marcos regime and continues to do so today.

"The big problem is when people separate the material and political on one side and the spiritual on the other," Longid said in a recent interview. "So they go to church and they pray, they kneel down and say their prayers and talk about love for their neighbor, and then they go out and start kicking their neighbor."

Longid and many of his fellow natives of this Cordillera mountain region believe that their powerful neighbors from the lowlands and from abroad have been "kicking" the people of the Cordillera for generations.



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According to Longid, a succession of government officials, military forces and industrialists have plundered the Cordillera's resources without regard for the region's people, their traditions and their relationship with the land.

"Development here has centered on the concept that the Cordillera is a resource center," said Longid. "Our relationship with the land here is one of stewardship, of using only what you need and conserving and conserving. But what's happening is people come here and wipe out our resources."

"I would say that at least 60 or 70 percent of the Cordillera people are fighting for the issues that are affecting them," said Longid. "And it happens that the revolutionary movement has taken up the cudgels for them."

Support for the rebel movement continues to run high in large areas of the Cordillera despite the advent of the Aquino government and the emergence of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) led by former priest Conrado Balweg. Balweg's group, which is involved in separate talks with the government and which is not hostile towards it, is thought to represent only a small portion of the Cordillera people.

"Definitely, Balweg should come into the picture," said Longid, "but he is not the one the government should concentrate on. He represents only a small portion of the Cordillera. In fact, even among his Tingguian tribes, it's only one little area where he has leadership -- but this is not true of the rest of the Cordilleras."

"Peace to me is not just sitting quiet in the corner and saying 'ah, that's peace,'" the bishop said. "The old concept of the good boy in school who does not speak up is no longer our concept of peace. I think people here are for ceasefire. The thing is, while we support the ceasefire initiatives and negotiations, we also hope the issues will be attended to."

Longid feels the government should negotiate with the Cordillera People's Democratic Front (CPDF), the regional affiliate of the National Democratic Front. "The best solution will not come from clerics like me, but from those who will be sitting down in conversation, because I'm sure the CPDF will have their own ideas and the government theirs, but I'm sure that in the conversation, in the dialogue, something will come up (that could lead to peace)," he said.



If the government does not take the issues seriously, Longid is concerned that all out war will ensue.

"You can never stop a revolution by fighting it with arms," said the 51-year old bishop. "They will try to kill each other off, but that's not going to be the end of it. I also know that some people will have to take the option of taking up arms when their backs are against the wall, when peace initiatives fail and when they've exhausted all means for coming up with peace. And I'm sure it won't be just the government shooting. The other side is going to start shooting too. I'm not one to moralize on that because they are doing that out of their own commitment and out of their own situation."

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